

Workforce Review

A monthly review of labor market information for Northern Santa Clara County

January 2013

Did you know?

Bay Area and California job markets are far stronger than first thought

The Bay Area and California job markets were far stronger in 2012 than initially thought, according to a new government report released Friday, an indication that the region's economic upswing is on solid footing.

And that employment surge persisted in January, the state's Employment Development Department reported Friday. During January, the Bay Area added 4,800 jobs, led by strong gains in the technology dominated South Bay and San Francisco-San Mateo-Marín metro area.

California added 1,700 jobs in January and the statewide jobless rate remained unchanged at 9.8 percent, the EDD reported.

The EDD in its report also disclosed that the Bay Area actually powered to a gain of 113,000 jobs during 2012, according to newly revised figures for the year. That was 21,600 more jobs than the initial estimate of a gain of 91,400 job in 2012, according to this newspaper's analysis of the EDD figures. Every March, the EDD releases annual revisions to its original estimates about the job market in California and its urban centers.

"The Bay Area is the leader for the California job market," said Steve Levy, director of the Palo Alto-based Center for Continuing Study of the California Economy.

Adding to the robust economic picture in the nine-county region is the improvement in the East Bay job market. The South Bay and the San Francisco metro area have been leading the recovery. Now, it appears the East Bay is joining the rebound.

The South Bay wound up gaining 28,900 jobs in 2012, or 5,300 more than first thought. The San Francisco metro area added 31,100 jobs last year, which was 10,500 better than the initial estimates. And the East Bay gained 21,400 jobs in 2012, or 4,500 more than the EDD first estimated.

"This is a Bay Area-wide recovery," Levy said. "The South Bay, San Francisco and the East Bay are all contributing."

California wound up gaining 327,400 jobs during 2012. That means the Bay Area accounted for more than one-third of all the job gains in California last year.

Like the Bay Area, California's job market wound up being far stronger than first thought. The revisions from the EDD showed the state added 101,500 more jobs than the initial estimates from the state labor agency.

"The stories of California's imminent demise are simply wrong," Levy said.

Source: *San Jose Mercury News* (03/22/13)
<http://bit.ly/YugK2l>

Labor Force Statistics (San José–Sunnyvale–Santa Clara MSA)

Unemployment Rate	January 2012	December 2012	January 2013	Percentage Point Change	
				Monthly	Annual
San José–Sunnyvale MSA	9.3%	7.8%	8.2%	+ 0.4	- 1.1
California	11.4%	9.8%	10.4%	+ 0.6	- 1.0
United States	8.8%	7.6%	8.5%	+ 0.9	- 0.3

Labor Force	January 2012	December 2012	January 2013	Percentage Change	
				Monthly	Annual
San José–Sunnyvale MSA	927,500	944,700	944,800	0.0%	+ 1.9%
Civilian Employed	841,300	871,400	867,800	- 0.4%	+ 3.1%
Civilian Unemployed	86,200	73,300	77,000	+ 5.0%	- 10.7%

Industry Statistics (San José–Sunnyvale–Santa Clara MSA)

Change in Employment	January 2012	December 2012	January 2013	Percentage Change	
				Monthly	Annual
Total Nonfarm	880,800	924,100	909,400	- 1.6%	+ 3.2%
Construction: Contractors	23,100	26,600	26,800	+ 0.8%	+ 16.0%
Mfg: Electronic Instrument	14,800	13,300	13,400	+ 0.8%	- 9.5%
Retail: Clothing & Accessories	10,600	12,300	11,000	- 10.6%	+ 3.8%
Publishing: Newspapers, etc.	1,300	1,300	1,200	- 7.7%	- 7.7%
Employment Services	18,600	21,500	20,300	- 5.6%	+ 9.1%

NOTE: San José–Sunnyvale–Santa Clara MSA (Metropolitan Statistical Area) = Santa Clara and San Benito Counties

Source: California Employment Development Department, LMID

Labor Force by Metropolitan Statistical Area (U.S. High-Tech Regions)

	Labor Force			Unemployment			Unemployment Rate		
	January 2012	January 2013	Annual Change	January 2012	January 2013	Annual Change	January 2012	January 2013	Annual Change
United States	153,485,000	154,794,000	+ 0.9%	13,541,000	13,181,000	- 2.7%	8.8%	8.5%	- 0.3
California	18,382,600	18,550,600	+ 0.9%	2,102,400	1,921,700	- 8.6%	11.4%	10.4%	- 1.1
Austin, TX	952,087	973,420	+ 2.2%	60,998	56,400	- 7.5%	6.4%	5.8%	- 0.6
Boston, MA	2,539,366	2,558,028	+ 0.7%	168,552	167,288	- 0.7%	6.6%	6.5%	- 0.1
Portland, OR	1,188,929	1,171,203	- 1.5%	106,223	99,660	- 6.2%	8.9%	8.5%	- 0.4
San Diego	1,584,300	1,601,700	+ 1.1%	150,900	137,200	- 9.1%	9.5%	8.6%	- 1.0
San Francisco	995,600	1,020,600	+ 2.5%	75,600	66,200	- 12.4%	7.6%	6.5%	- 1.1
Seattle, WA	1,495,320	1,502,550	+ 0.5%	117,770	97,670	- 17.1%	7.9%	6.5%	- 1.4
San José–Sunnyvale	927,500	944,800	+ 1.9%	86,200	77,000	- 10.7%	9.3%	8.1%	- 1.1

NOTE: Totals may not add correctly due to rounding

Source: California Employment Development Department, LMID

Regional Layoff Activity: January 2013

Company	WARN *	City	Affected	Cause	Layoff Summary	
Intuit	Yes	Mountain View	1	RIF	Individuals Affected YTD [†] :	1,680
Lifescan	Yes	Milpitas	71	RIF	Events Current YTD [†] :	35
					Events Previous YTD [†] :	57
72						

The delay in publication for the **January 2013 issue** of NOVA's *Workforce Review* is due to the extended process of benchmarking labor force data at the national level. The February 2013 issue will be released April 1, and all remaining 2013 issues are scheduled for release the fourth week of the following month.

* **WARN: Worker Adjustment and Retraining Notification**
(notice of mass layoff or closure)
† **YTD: Year to Date**
(Program year: July 1–June 30)

NOTE: Layoff data are reported by NOVA staff responding to layoff events and should be considered only an estimate of regional activity

Source: NOVA's internal Rapid Response database